

To: Burke, Thomas[Burke.Thomas@epa.gov]; Kadeli, Lek[Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov]; Kavlock, Robert[Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov]; Blackburn, Elizabeth[Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov]; Bahadori, Tina[Bahadori.Tina@epa.gov]; D'Amico, Louis[DAmico.Louis@epa.gov]
From: Hubbard, Carolyn
Sent: Wed 3/4/2015 2:26:19 AM
Subject: Fwd: some formaldehyde press -

Carolyn Hubbard
Science Communications
US EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD)
Hubbard.carolyn@epa.gov
202-564-2189
202-379-6744

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Strauss, Linda" <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>
Date: March 3, 2015 at 6:30:52 PM EST
To: "Milbourn, Cathy" <Milbourn.Cathy@epa.gov>
Cc: "Zito, Kelly" <ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>, "Millett, John" <Millett.John@epa.gov>, "Lee, Monica" <Lee.Monica@epa.gov>, "Hull, George" <Hull.George@epa.gov>, "Rowson, David" <Rowson.David@epa.gov>, "Hubbard, Carolyn" <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>, "Conger, Nick" <Conger.Nick@epa.gov>, "Keener, Bill" <Keener.Bill@epa.gov>, "Flattery, Priscilla" <Flattery.Priscilla@epa.gov>, "Mottley, Tanya" <Mottley.Tanya@epa.gov>, "Morris, Jeff" <Morris.Jeff@epa.gov>
Subject: some formaldehyde press -

Lumber
Liquidators'
stock drops
after report
of
unacceptable
levels of ...

FOX31 Denver -
19 hours ago

DENVER —
Stocks took a
nose-dive
Monday for
Lumber
Liquidators after
a report on the
CBS news

program "60
Minutes"
claiming the
company is
using laminate
with
unacceptable
levels of
formaldehyde.
In Colorado,
there are seven
Lumber
Liquidators ...

CBS
Reports
That Lumber
Liquidators
Is Selling
Formaldehyde-
Laden
Laminate ...

The
Consumerist -
Mar 2, 2015

Lots of
everyday
objects give off
formaldehyde,
and it's even the
product of
metabolic
processes in
our own bodies.
Occasional
exposure while
dissecting a frog
in school or
getting your
nails done isn't
a health
concern, but
prolonged
exposure to a
lot of ...

Report: High
formaldehyde

levels found
in Va.
flooring
from
Lumber
Liquidators

wtvr.com - Mar
2, 2015

The report by
CNN's
Anderson
Cooper
revealed
Chinese-
manufactured
laminate
flooring sold by
the company
contains high
levels of the
cancer-causing
chemical
formaldehyde.
Lumber
Liquidators
plunged more
than 20% in
early morning
stock trading on
...

'60 Minutes'
Report On
Formaldehyde
In Laminate
Floors Has
Parents
Worried

CBS Local - 16
hours ago

SACRAMENTO
(CBS13) — A
family is left
wondering if
they are
breathing toxic
air in their home
after a "60

Minutes”
investigation
into flooring sold
by Lumber
Liquidators. The
report focused
on reportedly
high levels of
formaldehyde
in flooring used
in ...

Formaldehyde
in laminate
flooring:
How
concerned
should you
be?

BabyCenter
(blog) - Mar 2,
2015

Children
exposed to
these high
levels of
formaldehyde
could be at
higher than
typical risk for
“chronic
respiratory
irritation,
change in a
person's lung
function,
increased risk of
asthma,”
according to Dr.
Philip
Landrigan,
whose interview
contributed to
the ...

Woman's

Home
Improvement
Comes To
Halt Over
Formaldehyde
Flooring

CBS Local - 10
hours ago

Some of
Lumber
Liquidator's
cheaper
lamine
flooring contains
high levels of
formaldehyde,
a known cancer-
causing
chemical. Dr.
Philip
Landrigan, of
NY's Mt. Sinai
Hospital
explained, "It's
not a safe level.
It's a level that
the US EPA
calls polluted
indoor ...

Lumber
Liquidators
facing class-
action suit
over
flooring

New York Daily
News - Mar 2,
2015

Lamine is
legally allowed
to contain some
traces of
formaldehyde,
a chemical
known to cause

cancer and
respiratory
ailments,
because the
compound is
used in some
cheap flooring
glues. But when
Drury and
Denny Larson,
who heads the
environmental
...

'60 Minutes'
Is Right To
Raise
Questions
About
Lumber
Liquidators'
Toxic Floors

Forbes - Mar 2,
2015

Last night CBS
ran a 60
Minutes
segment on
dangerous
levels of
formaldehyde
in laminated
floor wood sold
by Lumber
Liquidators.
This caught my
attention
because this
substance is
hazardous to
human health.
Formaldehyde
can cause
cancer and
other ...

High
formaldehyde

levels found
in flooring
from
Lumber
Liquidators,
report says

wtkr.com - Mar
2, 2015

"We comply
with applicable
regulations
regarding our
products,
including
California
standards for
formaldehyde
emissions for
composite wood
products — the
most stringent
rules in the
country," the
company said in
a statement
said. "We stand
by every ...

After '60
Minutes'
report,
Lumber
Liquidators
shares do
not open

New York Post -
Mar 2, 2015

stores, including
Lumber
Liquidators, and
had them sent
to three certified
labs for testing
and found that
Lumber
Liquidators' US-
made laminate
flooring had

acceptable
levels of
formaldehyde,
but every
sample of its
Chinese-made
laminated
flooring failed to
...

Lumber
Liquidators
linked to
health and
safety
violations

CBS News -
Mar 1, 2015

Lumber
Liquidators is a
U.S. company,
but much of its
laminated
flooring is made
in China, and as
we discovered
during our
investigation,
may fail to meet
health and
safety
standards,
because it
contains high
levels of
formaldehyde,
a known cancer
causing ...

Lumber
Liquidators
Hammers
'60 Minutes'
for Critical
Report

Fox Business -
Mar 2, 2015

Lumber
Liquidators (LL)
saw its shares
tumble Monday
following a
critical "60
Minutes" report
on
formaldehyde
levels found in
the retailer's
laminated
flooring.
According to the
Sunday report,
the Chinese-
made laminated
flooring exceeds
formaldehyde
...

Lumber
Liquidators
stock
plunges
after 60
Minutes
says it sells
flooring with
...

Financial Post -
Mar 2, 2015

Lumber
Liquidators
Holdings Inc.
sold flooring
containing
levels of
formaldehyde
higher than
California health
and safety
standards,
according to the
television news
program "60

Minutes.” The flooring comes from mills in China, the CBS show said on Sunday ...

Lumber
Liquidators
Falls 25
Percent
After '60
Minutes'
Story

Bloomberg -
Mar 2, 2015

(Bloomberg) --
Lumber
Liquidators
Holdings Inc.
shares plunged
after a “60
Minutes” report
accused the
company of
selling Chinese-
made flooring
with illegal
levels of
formaldehyde.
The stock sank
25 percent to
\$38.83 in New
York following
the broadcast ...

Lumber
Liquidators
'Stands by
Every
Plank.'
Should
You?

NBCNews.com -
Mar 2, 2015

"Formaldehyde

is present in certain LL products and for those products, the levels are safe," Lumber Liquidators said in response to a customer's query on Twitter. "Testing cited by 60 Minutes is not right," it said in response to another. When asked for ...

**Lumber
Liquidators
flooring fails
safety tests:
'60 minutes'**

Reuters - Mar 1, 2015

(Reuters) - Lumber Liquidators Holdings Inc, a retailer of hardwood flooring in North America, sold flooring with higher levels of **formaldehyde** than permitted under California's health and safety standards, according to television news program "60 Minutes".

GCM

Announces
New Testing
Results of
Lumber
Liquidators
Chinese-
made ...

PR Newswire
(press release) -
19 hours ago

As noted in the
60 Minutes
report, which
aired on March
1, 2015,
probably tens of
thousands of
households in
California and
probably
hundreds of
thousands of
households
nationwide are
being exposed
to
formaldehyde
emissions from
Lumber
Liquidators ...

Ahead of
Bell: '60
Minutes'
report hits
Lumber
Liquidators

Washington
Post - Mar 2,
2015

The "60
Minutes" report,
which aired on
CBS on
Sunday, said
that Lumber
Liquidators'
laminated

flooring made in
China contains
high levels of
formaldehyde,
a carcinogen. In
the "60 Minutes"
report,
correspondent
Anderson
Cooper spoke
with Denny
Larson, ...

Lumber
Liquidators
Says It
'Stands By
Every Plank'

NBCNews.com -
Mar 2, 2015

A CBS '60
Minutes' report
Sunday said
some of the
company's
Chinese-made
laminated
floorboards
contained
unsafe levels of
formaldehyde,
a known
carcinogen.
Lumber
Liquidators said
Monday that it
"stands by
every plank" of
its flooring and
that '60 ...

Is Fake
Wood
Flooring
From China
Killing You

or Just Your Investments?

TheStreet.com -
Mar 2, 2015

NEW YORK
(TheStreet) --
Cheap wood
flooring,
furniture and
cabinetry from
China that
contains high
levels of the
chemical
formaldehyde
may or may not
be bad for your
health, but it's
definitely bad
for your
portfolio. A 60
Minutes
investigation of
retailer ...

Lumber
Liquidators
stock
pummeled
after '60
Minutes'
probe

CNNMoney -
Mar 2, 2015

The report by
CNN's
Anderson
Cooper
revealed
Chinese-
manufactured
laminate
flooring sold by
the company
contains high
levels of the
cancer-causing
chemical
formaldehyde.

Lumber
Liquidators (LL)
plunged more
than 25%
Monday. Until
about 11 a.m.,
...

Lumber
Liquidators
sold flooring
with
dangerous
levels of
chemical,
'60 Minutes

...

NJ.com - Mar 2,
2015

Lumber
Liquidators had
a bumpy stock
opening today,
after a "60
Minutes"
segment
Sunday
reported the
company has
been selling
laminated floors
with a
dangerous
amount of
formaldehyde,
according to
reports. CNBC
reported trading
on the company
was ...

Lumber
Liquidators
Selling
Toxic

Chinese-
Made
Laminate
Flooring In
US

2paragraphs.com -
Mar 1, 2015

On 60 Minutes,
Anderson
Cooper
investigates the
laminate
flooring that's in
thousands of
American
homes. Chinese-
made laminate
flooring sold in
Lumber
Liquidators
outlets in the
US contains
toxic
formaldehyde
which is a
chemical known
to cause
cancer.

Lumber
Liquidators
flooring
called
unsafe

Richmond.com -
11 hours ago

Shares of
Lumber
Liquidators
plunged more
than 25 percent
Monday after a
scathing "60
Minutes" report
accused the
Toano-based

company of
selling laminate
flooring that
contains high
levels of
formaldehyde.
The 13-minute
segment
Sunday night
claimed ...

Calif.
regulators
investigate
laminate
floor fears
linked to
Lumber
Liquidators

New York Post -
8 hours ago

California
environmental
regulators said
Monday they
are finding
excessive
amounts of
formaldehyde
in laminate
flooring like that
featured in a "60
Minutes"
exposé on
Lumber
Liquidators. The
California Air
Resources
Board, citing an
ongoing
investigation ...

Lumber
Liquidators
linked to
health and

security violations

Beacon Review -
Mar 2, 2015

Even though
laminated
flooring from
Residence
Depot and
Lowe's
experienced
appropriate
degrees of
formaldehyde,
as did Lumber
Liquidators
American-
created
laminates, each
and every one
sample of
Chinese-
manufactured
laminated
flooring from
Lumber ...

Dangerous levels of chemical found in popular laminated flooring

VOXXI - Mar 2,
2015

Formaldehyde
is found in the
glues used to
hold laminated
floors together,
and a small
amount of the
natural
preservative is
common in

carpentry
products as well
as press fabrics,
bath oils, bubble
bath, and an
array of
cosmetics,
deodorants,
fingernail ...

Lumber
Liquidators
stock
slammed by
'60 Minutes'
report

MarketWatch -
Mar 2, 2015

What's more, all
lamine
flooring carried
by Lumber
Liquidators
bears a label
indicating that it
is CARB Phase
2-compliant,
referring to the
California Air
Resources
Board, which
sets standards
for
formaldehyde
emissions in
wood flooring.
Those
standards ...

US retailer
stands by
flooring
made at
factory in
China

Chinadaily USA -
7 hours ago

According to the

TV report, the Chinese-made laminate flooring exceeds **formaldehyde** standards in California, even though Lumber Liquidators labels the product as CARB Phase 2 Compliant. Those emissions regulations were approved by Congress in ...

Lumber
Liquidators
Plunges
After '60
Minutes'
Alleges
Health
Violations

TheStreet.com -
Mar 2, 2015

NEW YORK
(TheStreet) --
CBS' "60
Minutes"
reported last
night that some
of Lumber
Liquidators' (LL)
floors may
violate health
and safety
standards
because they
have
excessively high
levels of
formaldehyde.
Two research
firms issued

negative notes
about ...
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

From: Milbourn, Cathy
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 6:16 PM
To: Strauss, Linda
Cc: Zito, Kelly; Millett, John; Lee, Monica; Hull, George; Rowson, David; Hubbard, Carolyn; Conger, Nick; Keener, Bill; Flattery, Priscilla; Mottley, Tanya; Morris, Jeff
Subject: Re: Draft Formaldehyde Desk Statement

I sent it to CPSC. I don't know if they will look at it tonight

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2015, at 6:14 PM, "Strauss, Linda" <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov> wrote:

John and Cathy, were CARB and CPSC going to give a quick look tonight?

From: Zito, Kelly
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 6:12 PM
To: Millett, John; Strauss, Linda; Lee, Monica
Cc: Milbourn, Cathy; Hull, George; Rowson, David; Hubbard, Carolyn; Conger, Nick; Keener, Bill; Flattery, Priscilla; Mottley, Tanya; Morris, Jeff
Subject: RE: Draft Formaldehyde Desk Statement

Thanks for all the work on this, everyone. R9 feels that it's very important to finalize this today.

I think that we can copy CARB and CPSC on this, and if there are any adjustments needed, we can tweak it.

Kelly

From: Millett, John
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:58 PM
To: Strauss, Linda; Lee, Monica
Cc: Milbourn, Cathy; Hull, George; Rowson, David; Hubbard, Carolyn; Conger, Nick; Zito, Kelly; Keener, Bill; Flattery, Priscilla; Mottley, Tanya; Morris, Jeff
Subject: RE: Draft Formaldehyde Desk Statement

Just off the phone with Linda Strauss and Dave Rowson -- I just scanned press so far on this and have not seen statements from either CARB or CPSC.

Dave raises a good point that before sharing the statement we should coordinate with them.

~~~~~  
John Millett

Director, OAR Communications

Desk: 202-564-2903

Cell: 202-510-1822

**From:** Strauss, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 03, 2015 4:41 PM  
**To:** Millett, John; Lee, Monica  
**Cc:** Milbourn, Cathy; Hull, George; Rowson, David; Hubbard, Carolyn; Conger, Nick; Zito, Kelly; Keener, Bill; Flattery, Priscilla; Mottley, Tanya; Morris, Jeff  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Formaldehyde Desk Statement

Monica, John and I spoke and agreed to slightly modified language for 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph.

Q's and A's will come tomorrow.

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If you are experiencing symptoms you think may be related to formaldehyde, you should contact your physician and/or your state or local health department for assistance.

For questions about formaldehyde in various products and its potential impact on indoor air quality, refer to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) publication, "[An Update on Formaldehyde](#)". This publication describes what formaldehyde is, what products it may be found in, where you may come in contact with it, how exposure to formaldehyde may affect your health, things you should know if you are considering testing your home for formaldehyde, and how you might reduce your exposure to it.

Homeowners should be aware that there are drawbacks to testing the indoor air in your home for formaldehyde, due to inaccuracies, difficulties in interpreting the results and costs. CPSC's "[An Update on Formaldehyde](#)" provides a good summary of the challenges of formaldehyde testing.

For questions about regulations in the State of California see the California Air Resources Board website:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/formaldehyde.htm> <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compw>

EPA is in the process of finalizing rules that will set limits on formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products such as hardwood plywood, medium-density fiberboard, and particleboard that are sold, supplied, offered for sale, manufactured, or imported in the United States. The rules will require composite wood panel producers to monitor formaldehyde emissions from their composite wood products and have a third-party certifier verify that the formaldehyde emission standards are being met.

*Although there are currently no national standards in place for formaldehyde in composite wood products, EPA plans to finalize the proposed standards before the end of the year.*

### **Additional Background on EPA Rulemaking:**

Congress tasked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with developing regulations to implement the Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act, or Title VI of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

On June 10, 2013, EPA proposed two regulations. One would implement formaldehyde emission standards under Title VI of TSCA and would apply to hardwood plywood, medium-density fiberboard, particleboard, and finished goods containing these products that are sold, supplied, offered for sale, or manufactured (including imported) in the United States. The other proposal would establish a framework for a third-party certification program to ensure that composite wood panel producers comply with the formaldehyde emission limits established under TSCA Title VI.

In an ongoing effort to reach out to potentially affected stakeholders, EPA met and continues to meet with companies and trade associations that represent, among other members, producers of laminated products. As part of this effort, EPA specifically requested data on formaldehyde emissions from laminated products, as well as comments and information on the proposed definition of laminated products. The comment period for the implementing regulations has been twice extended at the request of a number of industry stakeholders and closed on October 9, 2013. EPA received and is reviewing the comments and data submitted by members of the home furnishings industry, as well as all other submitted comments and data, and will carefully consider them in developing the final rule. EPA anticipates publishing a combined final rule by the end of 2015.